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**Lesson Title:** Learning to Help in the Classroom

**Suggested Grade Level:** 1st Grade

**Estimated Lesson Time:** 70 minutes

**Student Prior Knowledge:**

Students know how to record their own video blogs using the classroom computer. Teacher assistance is needed in order to upload and compile student video blogs. Students know how to use Google Docs. Students have not been previously taught how they can better their community, or what terms such as “community” and “citizenship” mean.

**Standards:**

SS.1.C.2.3: Identify ways students can participate in the betterment of their school and community.

**Goals:**

Students will identify, list and describe tasks they can complete in order to help better our classroom. Such activities could include: cleaning the whiteboard, recycling, etc. Students will then complete these individual tasks on a daily basis in order to understand how they can help. Helping in the classroom will allow students to recognize how they can help on a small scale, thus creating a foundation for how they can help on a larger scale (ie. the community) at a future date.

**Learning Objectives:**

I can create a list of the ways that I can help around the classroom. I can take turns with my classmates completing these tasks, and also successfully complete my task when it is my turn. I will show that I understand why it is important to help in the classroom, at home, and in the community through my own video messages.

**Resources:** *The Lorax*

**Procedures:**

1. I/Teacher will read Dr. Seuss’ *The Lorax* to you/students (15 minutes).
	1. While reading, I/teacher will show you/students the difference between the color of the Earth before the Once-ler cut down the trees and also after.

2. Discussion: I/Teacher will ask you/students what happened when the Once-ler cut down all of the trees. I/Teacher will ask you/students what it means to be a good citizen, or member of a community. I/Teacher will ask you/students how one person’s actions can affect an entire community? (10 minutes)

3. You/Students will then use your/student journals to answer these two questions: “What can the little boy at the end of the book do in order to help fix what the Once-ler had done? What can you do to help your community?” (10 minutes)

4. In groups of four, you/students will create a list of five things you/students can do to help in the classroom. You/Students will type this list into a pre-made Google document. (5 minutes)

5. You/Students will volunteer to complete a specific task from the list we created. (5 minutes)

6. You/Students will complete your/student’s specific task. (5-7 minutes)

 *(At a later time, I/teacher will create a permanent student volunteer schedule to hang in classroom. You/Students will be able to check off when you/students have completed your task.)*

7. You/Students will use a computer to record a video answering how you/students helped in the classroom, why it is important to help, and how it made you feel to help. (Remainder of class; If students run out of time, I/teacher will allot ten minutes at the beginning of the next class to complete this assignment)

 *(You/Student will continue to create video blogs as we/classroom continue to help in the classroom and beyond. I/Teacher will later compile videos into one video for you/students and parents to see.)*

**Assessment:**

I/Teacher will observe and note level of student participation. I/Teacher will use rubric to evaluate student journals and videos.

**Extensions and Adaptations:** N/A

**Reflections:** N/A